

News Advisory



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 22, 2006

CONTACT:

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Public Western-Style Celebration

CA State Parks to Showcase \$5 Million Restoration of Will Rogers State Historic Park

WHAT: The California home of world famous actor and humorist Will Rogers will come to life on Saturday with the reenactment of the 1944 ceremony in which the Roger's family handed over the deed to then-Governor Earl Warren and California State Parks on behalf of the people of California. The public will be entertained by polo field demonstrations, horseback rides, trick ropers, a gun spinner, a no-host barbeque, an impersonator, self-guide tours of the grounds and tours of the ranch house. The event marks the completion of a three-year, \$5-million restoration of the land, ranch house and barns. Admission is free.

Preview event at 7:30 a.m. on Friday: Author Joseph Carter is coming from Oklahoma to hold a book signing of his recently released "The Quotable Will Rogers" at Village Books, 1049 Swarthmore Ave. in Pacific Palisades.

WHO: California State Parks, the Will Rogers Family and the Will Rogers Cooperative Association

- Mike Chrisman, Secretary, California Resources Agency
- Ruth Coleman, Director, California State Parks
- Kem Rogers, Will Rogers Grandson
- Bobby Shriver, Chairman, California Park & Recreation Commission
- Clint Eastwood, Vice-Chairman, California Park & Recreation Commission (invited)
- Sarah Feldman, State Parks Foundation
- State Senator Sheila James Kuehl, (D-Los Angeles)
- Assemblywoman Fran Pavley (D-Woodland Hills)
- Jim Hartz, Chairman, Will Rogers Memorial Commission, Oklahoma
- Bill Rosendahl, City Councilman, Los Angeles
- Zev Yaroslavsky, Supervisor, Los Angeles County
- Trudi Sandmeier, Will Rogers Cooperative

WHEN: 10 a.m. – Rogers family take the first is tour the house. The media is invited.
Please note, space is limited in the house, so a media pool may be necessary.
11 a.m. – Dedication Ceremony
11:45 a.m. Cornerstone Dedication at Jimmy's Barn (Complete schedule attached)

WHERE: Will Rogers State Historic Park, 1501 Will Rogers State Park Road, Pacific Palisades, approximately four miles east of Pacific Coast Highway off Sunset Boulevard. There is no public parking on the property for this event. The public parks off site and gets a shuttle to the park.

Media with credentials will be provided parking on site. Event Info: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24174

(more)

Will Rogers Event
3/22/06
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WELCOME BACK TO THE RANCH
A LEGACY RESTORED AT WILL ROGERS STATE HISTORIC PARK
March 25, 2006



Public Event Schedule

Updated 3/22/2006

- 9:00** Information Booth opens
Media Booth opens. Media register and receive media packets, schedule interviews.
- 9:30** VIP Green Room opens
Remote Parking Shuttles begin service at all 3 remote locations
Sound Check at main stage
- 10:00** Music Begins (45 minute set)
Family & Media tour house
Trail rides begin
- 10:20** VIPs tour house (elected and state officials and celebrities, if we have any)
- 10:30** Trick Ropers begin entertaining around the main stage
- 11:00** Rededication Ceremony (30 minutes)
Color Guard by Santa Monica Mounted Unit
Pledge of Allegiance by the American Legion
- 11:30** Masonic Processional to Jimmy's Barn led by Grand Master and Rogers family see details below*
The general public's timed house tours begin. They are held every 15 minutes.
- 11:45** Cornerstone Dedication at Jimmy's Barn (1 hour)
- 12:15** Main Stage - Entertainment – gun spinner (45 minutes)
- LUNCH** (12-1 pm)– Trick ropers work crowd near BBQs and at roping dummies
- 1:00** Second Music set (45 minutes)
- 1:45** Polo Demonstration (30 minutes, narrated over PA)
- 2:30** Third Music Set (45 minutes)
- 3:00** Last House Tour
- 4:00** Last Shuttle to remote parking
- 5:00** Last Trail Rides (warning that last shuttle is at 4 p.m.)

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